The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

## WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Be not merely good; be good for something.—Thoreau.

WHOLE NO. 1155 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1933 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 23, NO. 12

## Labor's Opportunity for Service

The national industrial recovery bill, scheduled for speedy enactment into law by Congress, gives substantial recognition to organized labor in determining wages, hours and working conditions in the vast planned production visioned by the measure.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, stressed this point in his address on "Modern Economic Planning" at the anniversary reunion of the Harvard Business School Club in New York City. After describing the tremendous import of the proposed legislation, he said:

> **"The workers must share in the social and economic benefits which will inevitably flow from the enactment and successful administration of such legislation. They can only do this through organization of a kind and character which corresponds with the organization of employers as provided for in the Act. It must be obvious to all that labor can only secure its share of the benefits of such legislation through organization, collective bargaining and through the exercise of its economic influence.**
>
> **"It is fortunate indeed that there exists at the present time a constructive organized labor movement embracing and comprehending all trades and crafts. Through such an organization labor is prepared to organize and unite its forces so that the workers of the Nation may be protected in their rights under this legislation and the full benefits of the labor provisions of the Act may be enjoyed by the masses of the people."**

The bill includes broad provisions for securing higher wages, shorter hours, improved working conditions for all workers. But the strong voice of the workers will be necessary in order to secure these rights.

The bona fide trade union movement is the only organization that can make that voice effective. Now is the time to join the union!

## Smuggled Aliens and Unemployment

There are over 13,000,000 unemployed workers in the United States.

Confronted with this grave emergency, Congress should adopt every reasonable measure to increase the number of jobs available for our citizens.

One prolific source of job destruction for American workers is the smuggling of aliens into our country under a provision of the seamen's law, which permits seamen who are not American citizens but who declare their purpose of again going to sea are given sixty days to do so before the immigration law applies.

Taking advantage of this provision and the regulations for its enforcement immigrants who would be otherwise excluded are hired as seamen in foreign ports to make up padded crews for American ships and then permitted to land in the United States. They mingle with the population and take jobs that rightfully belong to American workers.

Thousands of these alien seamen are not seamen at all. As a matter of fact, they are smuggled into our country. If they were not labeled seamen they would be barred from the United States under our immigration exclusion laws.

Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union of America, claims that more than 500,000 of these alien seamen immigrants have come across from Europe in violation of our laws. The number which has come from China is very large, but the actual figures are not known.

The Seamen's Bill, sponsored in the Senate by Senator King of Utah and in the House of Representatives by Congressman Dies of Texas, would definitely put an end to the evasion of the immigration laws so pointedly described by Mr. Furuseth. It provides that all vessels entering ports of the United States the majority of whose crews have been engaged at foreign ports shall when leaving the United States carry crews at least equal in number to those brought in. The bill also tightens up the government inspection which determines whether or not the aliens are bona fide seamen.

The measure has been before Congress for a number of years. It has been favorably reported twice by the Immigration Committee of the House of Representatives and four times by the Senate Immigration Committee.

Despite these favorable reports, those who own and control the American shipping industry, in alliance with similar interests in foreign countries, have been strong enough to prevent its enactment.

With the improvement of wages and working conditions, smuggling aliens into the United States as bogus seamen to take the jobs that of right belong to Americans will largely increase.

The prompt enactment of the King-Dies bill would effectively restrict this nefarious practice. The bill is in the hands of the Senate and House Immigration Committees. As an immediate measure to attack unemployment, the immigration committees should report the bill without delay and use every effort to have it made the law of the land during the special session of Congress.

## WAR AGAINST REDS WAGED BY N. Y. FUR WORKERS

### Manufacturers Join American Federation of Labor in Campaign to Rid Fur Industry of Communists and Left Wingers.

New York.—The Associated Fur Coat and Trimming Manufacturers' Association joined with the International Fur Workers' Union and the American Federation of Labor to rid the fur industry of all Communist and left wing labor organizations.

In response to a warning from the fur workers' union that serious violations of their joint contract have been made recently and must be corrected, the manufacturers' organization agreed to fulfill all agreements and to completely unionize their shops without delay.

According to representatives of the International Fur Workers' Union, the organization for the last year has been unable to protect its workers because of the intimidation of left wing labor organizations. The union distributed literature in the fur district advising the fur workers that the American Federation of Labor has instituted a campaign to help them and urged them to report to the headquarters of the union for advice.

The pamphlets also advised the workers who have been led away from the union by left wing organizations to get back into the union.

Dudley Field Malone, speaking for the fur manufacturers, said that Mayor O'Brien and Police Commissioner Bolan had promised their support in fighting communism and left wing tactics in the fur industry.

## WOMEN GARMENT WORKERS WIN WAGE BOOST STRIKE

Lincoln, Ill.—Approximately 150 employes of the Mitchell Garment Factory here won their strike against the concern's low wage schedule. The majority of the strikers were women. The company produces women's dresses and waists.

Representatives of the strikers stated that the factory management imposed a heavy wage cut some months ago with the pledge that the old rates would be restored three months after January 1.

This pledge was not kept. Widespread unrest resulted, accentuated by reduced earnings caused by three-fourths time which had been the rule for many weeks. Finally, when the management persisted in its refusal to restore the pay reduction the employes walked out in a body.

Following an open meeting in the county circuit court building, the company restored the last pay cut.

Local labor officials say that Mitchell Garment Factory moved here from Chicago a number of years ago to get cheap labor. The factory headquarters are now in Chicago.

## LAWSON FOR UNIVERSITY REGENT PLEASES GREEN

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, congratulated George W. Lawson of St. Paul, Minn., secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, on his having been appointed a member of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota by Governor Floyd B. Olson.

"I am delighted and pleased to know that this signal honor was conferred upon you," Mr. Green's letter to Mr. Lawson said. "I congratulate you upon the very deserving recognition accorded you, and I wish for you success in all the work you will be called upon to do."

Members of the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota serve for six years.

## Jacksonville Union Official Becomes Red Cross Treasurer

Jacksonville, Ill.—Charles E. Souza, president of the Jacksonville Trades and Labor Assembly, has been elected treasurer of the Morgan County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Souza is also vice president of Typographical Union No. 356, a director of the Morgan County Tuberculosis Association, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Governor's Emergency Relief Committee, and holds office in a number of other organizations. He insists on the union label appearing on the printed matter of all organizations with which he is connected.

## 700 Union Barbers Strike For Wage Boost in New York

New York.—The 700 members of Local 560, Journeymen Barbers' International Union, went on strike here after a failure to reach an agreement with their employers concerning a new wage scale and work schedule.

Anthony Accardino, president of the union, said the boss barbers, using the depression as an excuse, had not lived up to the old agreement, but had paid wages as low as $18 and compelled barbers to work seventy-two and seventy-five hours a week.

The union demanded a wage scale of $25 a week, 50 per cent commission on earnings above $35, and a working week of sixty hours.

## W. J. Lyons, New Jersey Labor Leader, Dies at 48

South Orange, N. J.—William J. Lyons, president of the Essex County Building Trades Council, fell dead here from heart attack on May 19 while descending the stairs in his home. He was 48 years old.

Mr. Lyons was business agent of the Newark Bricklayers' Local No. 3 and was interested in several building supply concerns.

## Industrial Recovery Bill Protects Labor; Puts Ban on Company Union

### House Ways and Means Committee Adopts Amendments Offered by President Green of A. F. of L. Guaranteeing Workers' Right to Join Labor Organizations of Their Own Choosing Without Interference from Employers.

**Washington.—The Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives adopted the amendments to the President's national industrial recovery bill offered by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to more thoroughly protect the rights of the workers to organize into bona fide trade unions and to prohibit employers from compelling their employes to join company unions.**

The original draft of the bill prescribed that the fair-competition codes, agreements and licenses which the measure authorizes should contain a stipulation "that employes shall have the right to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing."

**Coercion of Employes Prohibited**

In the hearings held by the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. Green urged that this protective clause be made more explicit by adding the guarantee that the employes shall also "be free from the interference, restraint or coercion of employers of labor, or their agents, in the designation of such representatives or in self-organization or in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection."

**Anti-Injunction Principle Reaffirmed**

"This amendment," Mr. Green told the committee, "does not include within it any form of new legislation. It is a verbatim statement taken from the declared public policy of the Government as set forth in the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law.

"Congress adopted this declaration by an overwhelming vote when it passed the Norris-LaGuardia Act. It is now a part of the law of the land.

"We ask, labor asks, that it be included in this emergency legislation. Labor believes it necessary in order to confirm and emphasize the guaranty of the right of organization and of the exercise of collective bargaining.

**Real Guarantee of Right to Organize**

"I am only refreshing your memories when I call your attention to the declared public policy of the Government as set forth in the Norris-LaGuardia Act.

"That, it seems to me, is a declaration that has been accepted and is in effect and can be incorporated in this legislation.

"There will be no departure from policies heretofore pursued. We are not asking that something new be incorporated, but that we lift out of that declared public policy this section and include it in this emergency legislation, for the reason that labor will then feel better satisfied that its right to organize is really guaranteed, and that it will be permitted to exercise freedom of action in that direction."

**Company Union Given Knockout**

The same section of the bill also declared that in setting up the codes, agreements, and licenses "no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any organization or to refrain from joining a labor organization of his own choosing."

It was apparent that the word "organization" in the phrase "no one seeking employment shall be compelled as a condition of employment to join any organization" meant that notorious employers' scheme known to trade unionists as the "company union."

In order that there might not be even the possibility of an anti-labor interpretation of this provision, Mr. Green urged that the words "company union" be substituted for the word "organization," so that the section would declare "that no employe and no one seeking employment shall be required as a condition of employment to join any **company union** or to refrain from joining a labor organization of his own choosing."

"It is the opinion of the American Federation of Labor," Mr. Green said, "that this amendment would make clear and definite the real meaning and purpose of this part of the act.

**Employers Use Coercion**

"I think, if I could interrogate the committee who were engaged in drafting this section that they would admit that they had in mind the words I have suggested as an amendment to this section of the act.

**"Labor has been faced with this problem, that corporations set up their own company unions. These unions are the creatures of the corporation, and function only at the will of the industrial corporation.**

**"Many workers are required, as a condition of employment, to join a company union. When they become members of that company union then the corporation is secure, because it simply deals with itself. We want to avoid that very thing.**

**Free Labor Unions**

"If the workers are permitted to join a labor union it ought to be a free, independent labor union, and not a union, or a so-called 'union,' through which a corporation may exercise full and complete control, not only of its own industrial affairs, but of the economic life and social life of the workers.

"The organization we have in mind is the company union, and we should like that this section of the act be made clear in that respect.

"If the industrial recovery act is amended, as herein suggested, labor will extend to this proposed legislation its full, complete, and hearty endorsement.

"I earnestly urge favorable action upon these proposed amendments. Each of them is regarded as of very great importance to labor."

## New Jersey Mayor Tries to End Big Shirt Factory Strike

Elizabethton, N. J.—Mayor Thomas Williams intervened in the strike of 1,600 shirt factory employes here in an attempt to settle the dispute. He asked that representatives of the employers and the workers meet at his office to see if a basis could not be found to adjust the grievances which caused the employes to leave their jobs.

## 8,000 AMOSKEAG EMPLOYES STRIKE FOR PAY INCREASE

### Mayor Caron Secures State Troops To "Protect Property"

Manchester, N. H.—Nearly 8,000 employes of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Co. here struck for an immediate 15 per cent wage increase. The officials of the company said they would not grant the increase until July 31. Whereupon the entire force of the big textile concern walked out.

Company officials said they would keep the mills closed until July 31 rather than pay the wage increase now.

Mayor Damase Caron called on Governor Winant for soldiers, Acting Adjutant General George Morrill responding by sending a number of companies of the 197th Coast Guard Artillery to the strike scene.

The Mayor's emotional action was caused by the attempt of some of the strikers to enter the mill yards through the huge gates at the main entrance just as the mill executives were leaving for the day. The police rushed to the scene. A few stones were thrown, but no serious injuries were reported. Nevertheless, the Mayor sent for troops to "protect property."

The Amoskeag concern had a big company union in operation until a few months ago. Employes began to manifest unrest over wages and showed an inclination not to vote as the company officials dictated. Thereupon the company abolished the company union.

## 1,000 POE MILL WORKERS STRIKE FOR PAY INCREASE

Greenville, S. C.—One thousand employes of the F. W. Poe Manufacturing Co. here went on strike for a wage increase.

John Peel, southern organizer of the United Textile Workers of America, declared that the operatives would not return to work until wages have been raised, hours shortened and working conditions improved.

He said many employes had not received any wages in money for more than a year, every cent being taken up at the company store for groceries, rent, coal and other necessities.

N. C. Poe, Jr., president of the company, said he would be glad to meet the operatives, but that they seemed indisposed to confer with him.

The indications are that the strike will continue indefinitely.

## Threat of Eviction Is Used To Coerce Textile Strikers

Mobile, Ala.—The manager of the Prichard Cotton Mill gave the striking operatives the alternative of going to work on a lowered wage scale or vacating the houses in the company's mill village. Seven hundred and fifty persons would be affected by the order to vacate.

## Myers Says Thirty-Hour Week Would Crimp Textile Output

Gastonia, N. C.—A. G. Myers, president of Textiles, Inc., operating mills having 250,000 to 300,000 spindles, is opposed to the 30-hour work week.

His plants couldn't supply the demand for their output on such a schedule, he says, predicting a great increase in the call for his products during the next few weeks to result from inflationary measures the national administration is promoting.

In order to obtain full advantage from the expected profit opportunities, Mr. Myers believes he should be permitted to work his operatives at least 40 hours a week.

## Paterson Hosiery Workers Strike Against Wage Cut

Paterson, N. J.—The American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers called a strike of the employes of the Le Mar Hosiery Co.'s plant here. Alfons Adler, business agent of the union, charged the firm with running a sweatshop. He said that the concern, formerly known as the Felsan Hosiery Co., was operated as a union shop, but closed because of the depression. A new firm bought the plant and told the men they were to work twelve hours a day and longer if they desired. Female employes are earning $3 and boy helpers $5 weekly.

Employes operate two knitting machines instead of one and are paid 40 per cent below the union price.

## HITLER'S ANTI-LABOR POLICY DENOUNCED

### International Trade Union Federation Says Fascist Regime Reduces Workers to Slavery

Paris, France.—Officials of the International Federation of Trade Unions have moved the headquarters of the organization from Berlin to Paris. The anti-labor repression by Hitler's Fascist Government made it impossible for the Federation to function at Berlin.

"By suppressing the 'free' trade unions and imprisoning leaders of the working class who refuse to sell their conscience," the Press Service of the International Federation says, "Hitler has just given final proof that what he is really seeking to do is to save capitalists and their profits and privileges by reducing the working class to physical and mental slavery.

"What is now filling with indignation the whole of the world outside Germany will, we hope and trust, end in the reawakening before long of the conscience of the German people themselves, and thus in the salvation of peace, the threat to which is now causing so much anxiety in Europe."

## OIL PRODUCTS CO. ADOPTS 5-DAY WEEK; NO PAY CUT

Harrison, N. J.—The five-day week without reduction in pay of salaried employes will be inaugurated June 1 by the National Oil Products Co. of Harrison, according to a report by C. P. Gulick, president of the company. The salaried group constitutes about 60 per cent of the personnel of the company.

"The five-day week program will continue during June, July and August, Mr. Gulick stated.

"Prosperous times," he said, "are governed by the purchasing power of the masses, and, in my opinion, the best way to bring back prosperity is for the management of industry to employ immediately more people at higher wages."

## Big Jack Overall Strikers Hold Out Against Work System

Bristol, Tenn.—Around 1,2[illegible] workers at the Big Jack Overall Company plants here declared they would not return to work until the management discontinues the new "minute system" recently installed in some departments and re-establishes the former plan.

## Working Conditions in Shirt Industry Will Be Investigated

Washington.—An investigation of hours and wages paid employes in the men's shirt industry was ordered by Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, who said that sweatshop conditions and incredibly low wages for women and children prevail in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and the New England States.

The Labor Department's Bureau of Statistics, Women's Bureau and Children's Bureau will conduct the investigation.

## 250 Shirt Factory Workers Win Strike for Higher Pay

Kulpmont, Pa.—A strike against low wages was declared by the 250 employes of the Kulpmont Shirt Factory. At the end of a week's shut down, the management agreed to pay a minimum wage rate of $5 a week and a 10 per cent increase for employes receiving in excess of $5 a week.

## 24 Per Cent Wage Boost Asked By Striking Textile Workers

Providence, R. I.—The 150 employes of the Orrell Mill, Inc., of Glendale, near here, struck when the management refused to give them a 24 per cent increase in wages. The mill boss offered a 12½ per cent increase, but the employes claimed the boost was just half of what they should have.

## Hosiery Workers Scrapped By New Knitting Machines

**Philadelphia, Pa.—How new machinery is ousting hosiery, sweater and other knit goods workers from their jobs was vividly shown at the 29th Annual Knitting Arts Exhibition here.**

Recent developments in single unit and single head full fashioned hosiery machines, of which several were on view, were called "revolutionary" by the rayon manufacturers for whose benefit they were demonstrated.

Unskilled help can operate the single head machine with greater flexibility than was possible for a highly skilled worker on the old type machines.

Another exhibit was a skein machine especially adapted for rayon dyeing.

## SAWMILL WORKERS WIN UNION RECOGNITION

### New A. F. of L. Organization Signs Pact With Lumber Company

International Falls, Minn.—The controversy of Sawmill Workers' Union No. 18242, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, with the International Lumber Company was ended by recognition of the union and the adoption of an agreement regarding wages, hours and working conditions, and the settlement of grievances through the machinery established in the agreement. The dispute resulted in a strike being declared a number of weeks ago.

The agreement provides that the company shall give preference to union members and that a new employe who is not a member shall join the union within thirty days.

If grievances cannot be adjusted by representatives of the union and the company, they shall be referred to an arbitration board of three, one member selected by the union, one by the company, and the third by the union and company representatives.

Failure to agree on wages when the wage schedule is opened will be referred to a representative of the workers appointed by the President of the American Federation of Labor, and a representative of the company.

In the negotiations leading up to the agreement, the committee representing the Sawmill Workers' Union included: Len Costley, chairman; Harold Heich, A. F. of L. organizer; Cleve Boyes, Arvid Barker, Walter Roesch, Leo Prevost, Ed. Thunstrom, J. C. Allen, Joe Kalar.

The International Lumber Company was represented by H. W. Andrews.

The Sawmill Workers' Union received its charter from the American Federation of Labor on April 5, 1933. Roy Horness is secretary of the union.

## Luxury Strikers Stand Pat For 20 Per Cent Pay Boost

Fort Plain, N. Y.—Striking employes of the Luxury Silk Mills, Inc., rayon underwear firm, stood firm for a 20 per cent wage increase and the return of David Thornton, deposed superintendent, who, they say, was discharged because he sided with them in their fight for higher wages.

Former Mayor H. V. Berry presided at a meeting called to consider the strike. Mrs. Leona Van Valkenburg, spokesman for the employes' seam department, said the employes would not return to work until their demands are met. Harry Rogosin is the owner of the low-wage concern.

## Power Trust Says Consumers Should Pay Electric Tax

Washington.—Power companies and investors mobilized their forces before Congress in an effort to avert the shifting of the Federal 3 per cent electric power tax from the consumers to the companies, as provided in the bill which passed the House of Representatives.

The main argument was presented by William J. Hagenah of Chicago, representing the Edison Electric Institute, who declared that transferring the tax to the power companies is "vicious."

Many Senators noted the fact that in the law passed last year the power companies were the only manufacturers who succeeded in having the sales tax levied directly on the consumers, all similar taxes being levied on the producer.

Senator Couzens of Michigan pointed out that the excitement of the power officials and the investors seemed to be unwarranted due to the fact that State Commissions were supposed to see that utilities earned a fair return.

Mr. Hagenah admitted this, but added that in addition to the trouble required in getting forty-eight State Commissions to increase rates it was not always possible to pass the sales tax along to the masses.

## 60 LIQUOR CONTROL JOBS SOUGHT BY 6,000 PERSONS

New York City.—Evidencing the fact that there still are left a few unemployed, despite the hullabaloo about currency inflation, the revival of stock gambling and other alleged evidences of returning prosperity, 6,000 hungry job hunters applied for the 60 jobs created under the State Liquor Control Board, and more piled in by mail, telephone, telegraph and in person.

Edward P. Mulrooney, chairman of the board, found his desk swamped with mail his clerks had not had time even to open when he took charge at quarters in the State Office Building here.

## *Employers Compel Workers to Sign Petitions Against 30-Hour Week Bill or Lose Their Jobs*

**Washington.—The unscrupulous character of the opposition of certain employers to the Black-Connery six-hour day and five-day week bill, now before the House of Representatives, was shown in a letter sent to Congressmen by John J. Egan, secretary of the Connecticut Federation of Labor.**

The bill was originally introduced in the Senate by Senator Black of Alabama and passed that body a number of weeks ago. Representative Connery of Massachusetts had also introduced a five-day week and six-hour day bill in the House of Representatives.

The House Labor Committee, of which Representative Connery is chairman, drafted and favorably reported a measure with various amendments to both the Black bill and the Connery bill. In its amended form it is known as the Black-Connery 30-hour week bill.

**Employers Use Big Stick**

**"I have been informed," Mr. Egan's letter said, "that slips protesting against the 30-hour week have been made out and that employes are requested to have them signed by their friends and relatives and turn them in to the management. I presume they will be presented in Washington to show that even the employes of Connecticut are not for the 30-hour week.**

**"Only last Monday the opinion of employes was voiced when a man from New Haven said: 'What can we do other than get these slips signed or lose our jobs?'"**

**"I am writing to you," Mr. Egan told the members of the House, "so that when these statements are filed or petitions presented showing the names of people who are protesting against the 30-hour week bill you will be fully aware of the circumstances under which the 'protest' is made."**

There is some difference of opinion among Connecticut employers as to the virtues of a Federal shorter work week, so the Manufacturers Association did not appear officially in opposition, but a strong committee pursued the same tactics in Washington that they followed in opposing a bill before the Connecticut legislature to establish a maximum 48-hour week for women and minors in industry.

**Coerced Testimony**

The Connecticut bill was supported by many employers, the State Labor Department and the Governor. The desperation of the opposition was shown by a confidential letter sent by the committee to individual manufacturers throughout Connecticut. Mr. Egan included a copy of the letter in his communication to members of Congress.

One excerpt from the manufacturers' letter read:

**"a. You are asked to select from one to ten women workers from your organization and to prepare them to tell their opposition in their own simple words.**

**"b. You are asked to arrange for their transportation to the hearing chamber that day, but it will be better if you do not sit with them. Their testimony should have the air of spontaneity."**

That the manufacturers' committee fully realized the invidious implications of this campaign they were undertaking, and that individuals who joined in did so with their eyes open, is proved by the further text of the committee letter, which said:

**"We have never before had to resort to this method of combatting this legislation in Connecticut. This time we are convinced it is absolutely necessary. The danger of the bill's passage cannot be emphasized too strongly. Unless we use this method effectively, with your cooperation, the 48-hour law will be on our statute books before June."**

**Hand-Picked Delegates**

The manufacturers were urged to have their hand-picked delegations on hand early, so that proponents of the legislation would have no opportunity to "pack" the hearing rooms. But manufacturers were also urged to come still earlier to the "Association office," on the morning of the hearing, in order that their testimony might be "coordinated":

**"We will agree among ourselves as to the phases of the testimony that each manufacturer will take. However, the women employes who will testify should not be brought here because that will destroy the spontaneity which we are trying to preserve."**

In view of the revelations made by Mr. Egan regarding the character of the opposition to shorter hours conducted by the organized manufacturers of Connecticut, it is expected that members of Congress will give little weight to alleged employe petitions against the Black-Connery 30-hour week bill. They will have in mind the plea of the Connecticut employe who said:

**"What can we do other than to get these slips signed or lose our jobs."**

## A. F. of L. Supports Roosevelt's National Industrial Recovery Bill

### President Green Says the Measure Will Provide Jobs for Six Million Workers—Labor's Rights Protected—Visions 30-Hour Week and Higher Wages—Urges $5,000,000,000 for Public Works.

**Washington.—With two amendments designed to more effectively protect the right of labor to organize effectively and to bar employers from enforcing membership in company unions as the price of a job, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, gave the complete support of that organization to the President's national industrial recovery bill.**

**In the hearings held on the measure by the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, Mr. Green said:**

**Aids Economic Recovery**

**"This proposed legislation marks a very definite step forward in industrial stabilization, rationalization and economic planning.**

**"The bill is appropriately termed an industrial recovery measure.**

**"It is, in the judgment of labor, the most outstanding, advanced and forward-looking legislation designed to promote economic recovery that has thus far been proposed.**

**"In the opinion of labor, it will prove when passed and applied to be a real, practical, constructive remedy for unemployment.**

**Jobs for Six Million**

**"Labor is thoroughly convinced that if the real purpose of the industrial recovery act is achieved, and all is done which can be done by authority of this legislation, six million unemployed people, who otherwise would be forced to remain idle, can be given employment within a reasonable length of time.**

"In operation, industry will be permitted to function in a cooperative way, freed from the effects of evil practices destructive of both industrial ownership and labor, and labor will be accorded enlarged and increasing opportunities for employment, along with the exercise of a constantly increasing purchasing power.

**Labor Standards Established**

"Based upon the stabilized, substantial foundation created in industry, standards with respect to hours, wages and conditions of employment can be established and this, in turn, will bring a revival of business in every community throughout the land.

"The right to organize into bona fide labor organizations, to collectively bargain, to be represented by representatives of their own choosing, is as essential to the well-being of labor as the exercise of the right of capitalists to form corporations and to engage in organized industrial activities is to capital.

**Eliminates Unfair Practices**

"A summation of the outstanding provisions of the bill clearly shows that industry may organize and through such organization develop cooperation, eliminate unfair competitive practices, prepare a code of fair competition which sets forth standards covering particular trades and competitive practices within industry.

"The anti-trust laws applicable to industry are suspended so that industry may unite and cooperate for the achievement of the purposes set forth in the act.

**Right to Organize Protected**

"The bill provides that the code to be prepared by an association or group of employers must stipulate that their employes may exercise the right to organize, to bargain collectively, and that the individual worker's right to join a labor organization shall not be interfered with.

**Reduction of Hours**

"Employers organized into associations, as provided for in the act, must undertake to reduce the number of hours worked per day and the number of days worked per week to the point where, in the judgment of the President of the United States, employment opportunities will be increased.

"Along with the reduction in the hours of labor must come the establishment and maintenance of decent wage standards.

"I am firmly of the opinion that through the exercise of the authority vested in the association of employers and groups of employers and the further exercise of the controlling power vested in the President of the United States, the six-hour day and the five-day week can become established and operative in the principal industries of the Nation.

**President's Unusual Power**

"Obviously the bill confers upon the President of the United States most unusual, broad, extraordinary powers. Labor is thoroughly conscious of this fact.

"Justification for such a proposal is found in the existing emergency. Because it is emergency legislation it is quite proper that such extraordinary powers be vested in the President if economic recovery depends upon the exercise of such unusual power."

**Billions for Public Works**

Mr. Green urged the committee to increase the amount provided for public works from $3,300,000,000 to $5,000,000,000.

"If a public works project in which five billion dollars was expended in carrying forward public improvement and public work in every State, city, town and section of the Nation was launched simultaneously," he said, "industry would be revived and industrial recovery would be constructively promoted.

"The public works program will supplement the development of industrial activity which is bound to take place under the inspiration of the legislation provided for in the industrial recovery act.

"With the amendments which I have herein suggested, accepted and incorporated in the bill, labor gives unqualified support to this proposed legislation.

"Along with its friends, it hails this suggested legislative step as a definite advance toward economic recovery."

## BANKER GETS NINE YEARS

Philadelphia, Pa.—Alexander D. Robinson, president and treasurer of the closed Northwestern Trust Company, was sentenced to serve nine to twelve years in the penitentiary. He was convicted of embezzling funds of the bank.